



FIRELINE

AN OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE WASHINGTON FIRE COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION

JUNE 2006

NAEFO Convention Set

Fire Commissioners! Mark Your Calendars for the NAEFO Convention--September 19-20, 2006

The Third Annual Convention of the National Association of Elected Fire Officials (NAEFO) will be held Tuesday and Wednesday, September 19-20, 2006 at the at The Golden Nugget Hotel in Las Vegas, Nevada.

NAEFO is a young organization that is strongly committed to moving forward in its goal of becoming a nationally recognized leader in the fire service. NAEFO is dedicated to establishing an independent, unified voice for elected fire officials' issues on the national and regional level. Your participation at the convention will help shape the future NAEFO. Additional information concerning the organization and membership is located at the end of this article on page four.

Convention Program

The NAEFO Board adopted the convention agenda as outlined below; please note that speakers and programs are currently being confirmed, and more information will be provided in the registration brochure which will be distributed to elected officials in the next few weeks. Information will also be available on-line; visit www.nafo.org or

Legislative Committee Looks Toward 2007

The WFCA Legislative Committee met on April 27 to review the 2006 session and to begin preparing for the 2007 legislative year.

The committee voted to reaffirm that its number one priority for 2007 is the multi-year lid lift authority (SB 5333).

WFCA legislative representatives have already begun work on this issue and have set up meetings with leadership on the hill to seek commitments for passage next year.

Other issues being reviewed and discussed during the interim are:

See Legislative on Page Five

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19	
1:00 - 3:00 p.m.	NAEFO Board of Directors' Meeting
3:00 - 5:00 p.m.	Committee Work Sessions
5:00 - 6:30 p.m.	Welcoming Reception & Registration
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20	
8:00 - 9:00 a.m.	Registration
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon	Annual Business Meeting (to include elections and committee reports)
Noon - 1:00 p.m.	Lunch
1:00 - 2:30 p.m.	Roundtable Session
2:45 - 4:45 p.m.	Educational Programs (to include federal legislative update)
5:00 p.m.	Annual Meeting Concludes

See NAEFO on Page Four

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A Message from the President *by Richard Kistler*



As President of the National Association of Elected Fire Officials, I recently wrote to NAEFO members about the progress of that organization; I would like to share the letter with you:

As a young organization, the National Association of Elected Fire Officials (NAEFO) has experienced some "growing pains." At the last two Board meetings, we took steps to deal with some of the concerns and problems that we have encountered.

- ♦ The NAEFO Board met April 15 in Portland (OR) at which time the personnel of the state association offices in Washington and Oregon offered to provide administrative services to NAEFO members.
- ♦ We realize there have been problems with communications to the extent that some members have been left "out of the loop." As a result, we are asking that all communications be channeled through the WFCA office so that we can ensure that all members receive appropriate information. Please direct all communications that you wish to be disseminated to amberb@wfca.wa.gov; Amber will have the appropriate email lists for members, committees, etc.
- ♦ The NAEFO website has not been properly updated. The Board has taken steps to assume maintenance of the website to ensure that the information is consistently current. Look for more information as the site is redeveloped and launched.
- ♦ We do not have a complete record of committee membership.

For that reason we are asking that you contact the WFCA office (amberb@wfca.wa.gov) to let us know if 1) you are a committee member or 2) are a committee chair. Currently, there are three active NAEFO committees; they are Bylaws, Communications and Membership. Additionally, the Board is considering establishing a Budget Committee at its July meeting; if you are interested and willing to serve please contact me through the WFCA office at amberb@wfca.wa.gov.

We appreciate your patience and support during this time and are confident that the changes we have made will result in marked improvement in the services provided to NAEFO members.

I encourage all fire commissioners to become a member of NAEFO.

New Questions & Answers Feature

The WFCA recently launched a "Questions & Answers" feature on its newly designed website.

The Q&A is intended to allow members to submit questions about fire district operations, levy rates, commissioner compensation,

etc.; your questions, along with the answers, are posted online.

Look for new questions weekly by logging onto www.wfca.wa.gov; questions and answers are featured on the home page and there is also a section for submitting questions to the WFCA.

What is **YOUR** question?

ON THE WEB...

The WFCA office regularly receives notice of various fire service training and educational programs. Visit www.wfca.wa.gov (click the *Education & Training* tab, select *Other Programs*) often as items are added frequently.

58th Annual WFCA Conference

The Washington Fire Commissioners Association 58th Annual Conference will be held at the Doubletree Hotel in SeaTac beginning Thursday, October 19, 2006. Conference will conclude on Saturday afternoon, October 21 at approximately 1:30 p.m. The Education Committee will meet soon to formalize its proposed class schedule, which will be presented to the Board on July 8 for final approval. If you have input regarding conference classes, please contact the Education Committee through the WFCA office as soon as possible. The following is preliminary information concerning conference—look for more to follow later this summer.

CONFERENCE KICKOFF 2006

The conference will kick off Thursday with a continental breakfast beginning at 8 a.m. Opening ceremonies will commence after the breakfast (10 a.m.). The later start allows additional travel time for local conference participants to drive in as well as provide a better flow for the opening ceremonies and business meeting. Conference will conclude with the Board Installation Luncheon on Saturday, October 21.



EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Conference registration forms will be mailed to all member fire commissioners, secretaries and chiefs in mid-August, after the Board approves the Education Committee's proposed workshop schedule. The registration forms will outline class topics and specific timelines for seminars, business sessions, meals and other conference functions. A separate registration will be mailed for the Snure Seminar which will be held the evening of Wednesday, October 18.

BOARD MEMBER ELECTIONS

Elections will be held on Friday, October 20, from 10:30 to 11 a.m., for the officers and even-numbered regional director positions. If you are interested in serving on the Board, please submit your name to the WFCA Nominating Committee, P.O. Box 134, Olympia, WA 98507, fax 360.664.0415, or email your nomination to wfca@wfca.wa.gov.

VOTE

MEMORIAL SERVICE

A memorial service will be held at conference for commissioners, secretaries and chiefs who have passed away during the year. If you know of someone who has passed on, please contact the WFCA office. You will be mailed a form requesting information about the deceased so that they may be properly honored at conference.



HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP

A fire commissioner who has served his or her district for 10 years or more, and whose district has been a paid member of the WFCA for at least 10 years, is eligible for Honorary Life Member status. Contact the WFCA office 1.800.491.9322 before October 6 for an application form.



MANAGEMENT EXCELLENCE AWARDS

The Management Excellence Award questionnaires were mailed to districts last month. Be sure to complete and return the questionnaire so that your district can be eligible to win an award at conference. This is a great opportunity to show off your district's innovative and progressive programs and services. Deadline for entries is July 1.



COMMISSIONER SERVICE RECOGNITION

The WFCA has a special recognition program honoring commissioners with more than two decades of service. This was formerly known as the "25 Year Recognition" program. During the 2005 conference the membership requested that the Board consider revising this award to better align with commissioners' six-year terms (e.g., 24 or 30 years). The Board has directed staff to work on the matter and more information regarding the revised program will be provided in the September *Fireline*, as well as on the WFCA website (www.wfca.wa.gov). Stay tuned.



GUEST ROOM RESERVATIONS

For room reservations, call the Doubletree toll-free reservations number at 1.800.445.8667 (HILTONS)—the room rate is \$115. When making reservations, be sure to mention you are with the WFCA; reservations deadline is September 29.

NAEFO From Page 1

Guest Room Reservations

The Golden Nugget (www.goldennugget.com) is located at 129 E. Fremont Street in Las Vegas (89101). Room reservations (\$69 per room, per night) may be made by calling 1.800.634.3454; be sure to identify your affiliation with NAEFO. In order to take advantage of the group rate, *you must make your reservation by August 19, 2006* (rooms secured after this date will be based on availability at the hotel rack rate).

Things to keep in mind when making reservations:

- Name changes requested after the cut-off date will not be permitted
- The first night's room and tax deposit is required at the time your reservation is made
- The deposit is non-refundable if cancellation occurs within 48 hours of arrival
- The hotel does not offer its own airport shuttle service; cab fare is \$15-\$20 one-way

For those wishing a general contact number for The Golden Nugget, the main telephone line is 702.385.7111.

General Information Regarding NAEFO

NAEFO is a non-profit organization made up of state associations of elected fire officials. Its primary purpose is to represent and inform elected officials of national issues and provide assistance to state associations. NAEFO was formed in 2001 by the state associations of California, Oregon, Washington and Montana. For more information on the NAEFO organization and membership, visit the new NAEFO website at www.nafo.org.

Ads

FOR SALE by Pierce 6 (Central Pierce Fire & Rescue:

The following vehicles & equipment is offered for sale.
'80 Mack 50' Telesquirt, (T 80-1). CF Cab, Mack ENDT 676 eng, Allison Trans, Jake Brakes, 1500 GPM Waterous pump, 500 gal tank, mobile radio, Intercom system, 1000' 5" hose, 1-35' ext ladder, 1-14' roof ladder, 1-10' folding ladder, misc nozzles & adapters, approx 112,000 mi, \$25,000 OBO.

'94 Chevrolet NorthStar, (Braun NW) Type I, 4X4 ambulance (M 94-1), 6.5 liter diesel, Telma Retarder, mobile radio, intercom system, Ferno cot, approx 136,000 mi, \$12,500 OBO.

'94 Ford E-I Type I ambulance, (M 94-2) F 350, 7.3 liter diesel, Telma Retarder, mobile radio, intercom system, Ferno cot, approx 145,000 mi, \$10,500 OBO.

All items are sold "As Is, Where Is" w/no warranty expressed/implied. Inspect at 17210 110th Ave E, Puyallup, WA. 98374. For info contact Asst Chief William Thomas, 253.538.6400, Fax 253.537.7294 or email whthomas@centralpiercefire.org.

FOR SALE by Pierce 8:

The district is accepting sealed bids for the following equipment.
• '84 Western States Fire Eng, V6 Detroit Dies, AT, 1500 GPM pump, 750 gal water tank. Incl light bar, mech & elect siren, Motorola MaxTrac" mob radio; excludes fire hose, hand tools, SCBA Packs & appliances. Believed to be in good cond w/20,720 mi (16,056 hrs eng, 2,985 hrs pump). Maint & pump records avail.

• '84 Western States Fire Eng, V6 Detroit Dies, AT, 1500 GPM pump, 750 gal water tank. Incl light bar, mech & elect siren, Motorola "MaxTrac" mob radio; excludes fire hose, hand tools, SCBA packs & appliances. Believed to be in good cond w/19,796 mi (15,481 hrs eng, 2,847 hrs pump). Maint & pump records avail.

• '85 Internat'l Water Tender, V6 Detroit Dies, AT, 3200 gal, 10" dump on back, believed to be in good cond w/4,116 mi since being refurbished in '97.

Bids for all will be accepted until 6/29/06 and opened on 7/11/06—awarded bid will be notified by telephone. All purchases shall be "as is, w/faults, no war, express/implied. District reserves right to accept/reject any/all bids, or any portion thereof, and call for new bids if their interests or convenience are better served by such as cause. For further info contact Chief Ed Goodlet, 10105 24th St E, Edgewood WA 98371, 253.927.2313, fax 253.927.2385. To view pictures of the equip, visit www.wfca.wa.gov and select "Classified Ads".

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT by Pierce 5:

Dist seeks a Fleet Mechanic. The Fleet Mechanic supports the Lead Mechanic to

which they are assigned and by whom they will be supervised. After receipt of applications on 6/16, a screening & selection process will begin for the most qualified applicants. Candidates selected to be tested will be contacted by 6/20. Up to 10 candidates will be invited for skill testing & an oral board interview on 6/23. The top 3 candidates will be required to take a psychological exam followed by an interview before the Fire Chief as the final step before selection. Starting pay is \$3,780.00 - \$5,400.00 per mo (DOQ), w/exc benefits. Closing date for applications is 2 pm on 6/16/06. Be sure to return all pages of the application package along with a resume (a very important part of the first step of the review process), Mon - Fri between 8 am and 5 pm, to Fire District 5 Headquarters, 10222 Bujacich Rd NW, Gig Harbor, WA 98332, 253.851-3111 (contact person is Linda Abbott, Admin Asst). District is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer and maintains a Tobacco Free workplace. Hiring date is 8/1/06.

FREE TO ANY FIRE SERVICE AGENCY THAT HAS A NEED by Camano Island

Fire & Rescue: Eleven 3600 psi & four 2400 psi cascade system air refill bottles, avail free to any fire service agency that has a need. Items are very heavy & shipping is not avail. The equip must be picked up on site. Equip is considered "as-is", "where-is", w/no warranties expressed/implied. For further info/details, contact Craig S. Helgeland, Admin Capt, Camano Island Fire & Rescue, 525 E. North Camano Dr, Camano Island, WA 98282, 360.629.3008.

The WFCA Education Committee will meet on Saturday, June 17 to discuss programs for the 2006 conference. If you have ideas for classes that you would like offered at conference, please contact the WFCA office:

Mail: WFCA
P. O. Box 134
Olympia, WA 98507
Email: wfca@wfca.wa.gov
Toll-free: 800.491.9322
Fax: 360.664.0415

WFCA Board of Directors to Meet July 8 in Olympia



The Board of the Washington Fire Commissioners Association will meet Saturday, July 8, 2006, at the state association office in Olympia (James R. Larson Forum Building, 605 11th Avenue S.E., Suite 205). The meeting will commence at 10:00 a.m.

WFCA committee reports will be among the topics of discussion. Members are welcome to attend meetings of the Board.

Legislative From Page One

- ♦ Volunteer Firefighter Incentives
- ♦ Housing Authorities' Tax Issues
- ♦ Excess Levy Simple Majority Vote
- ♦ GMA Impact Fees for Fire Districts
- ♦ Increase in Commissioner Compensation
- ♦ Amendment to RCW 41.24.030 to Allow Enrolled Volunteers to "Buy" Service Credit for Volunteer Pensions
- ♦ State Highway EMS Reimbursement

Your Legislative Committee consists of nine members, one from each region. They are:

*Chair & Region 3 Representative: **Dennis Bjork** (Grant 5)*

*Region 1 Representative: **Pat Kennedy** (Spokane 9)*

*Region 2 Representative: **Bill Wolfinbarger** (Asotin 1)*

*Region 4 Representative: **Miland Walling** (Klickitat 2)*

*Region 5 Representative: **Brian McMahan** (Snohomish 1)*

*Region 6 Representative: **Ronnie Behnke** (King 40)*

*Region 7 Representative: **Bob Barnard** (Thurston 9)*

*Region 8 Representative: **Dick Spring** (Clark 6)*

*Region 9 Representative: **Ralph Rogers** (Central Kitsap Fire & Rescue/Kitsap 1)*

If you have any issues or suggestions for the 2006-2007 WFCA Legislative Committee, please contact your regional legislative committee representative listed above, regional board member, or forward your issues to the WFCA office at P.O. Box 134, Olympia, WA 98507, wfca@wfca.wa.gov, fax 360.664.0415.

The next committee meeting will be held late July or early August (information will be posted on the WFCA website's *Calendar of Events* – log onto www.wfca.wa.gov).

Black Diamond Fire Teams with Mountain View Fire & Rescue

The following is a Media Release from the City of Black Diamond

Effective April 6, 2006, all fire department related services for the City of Black Diamond and King County Fire Protection District 17 (together called the Black Diamond Fire Department) will be provided under a contract with Mountain View Fire & Rescue. The contract increases the number of firefighters on duty 24/7 in Black Diamond and augments the number of volunteers available for calls in both departments.

"The cost of providing emergency services continues to outpace the revenues to pay for them. We have to constantly review what we do and how we do it so we are providing the citizens the best service for their money," Black Diamond Mayor Howard Botts said. Shared administrative costs and pooled equipment resources improve service levels without increasing the budget. The contract allows us to combine the best attributes of each department into a stronger organization with more capacity, says Fire Chief Greg Smith of Mountain View. Chairman of the Board of Fire Commissioners for District 44, Jim Farrell, stated, "This is a win-win for both organizations."

The contract combines the 2 Black Diamond career staff and 35 volunteers with Mountain View's 7 fire stations, 31 employees and 60 volunteers. This union will eliminate costly duplications while at the same time enhancing services to both areas.

2006 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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VICE PRES.: LES RIEL, YAKIMA 4

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REGION 3: DENNIS BJORK, GRANT 5

REGION 4: KEN EAKIN, YAKIMA 12

REGION 5: STEVE LICH, ISLAND 1

REGION 6: MARK THOMPSON, KING 39

REGION 7: ROBERT SKAGGS, PIERCE 21

REGION 8: KEITH MERRITT, COWLITZ 2

REGION 9: DAVID WHEELER, JEFFERSON 3

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY: ROGER FERRIS



WASHINGTON FIRE COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION

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OFFICE HOURS

8:30 A.M. - 4:30 P.M., MONDAY - FRIDAY

THE OPINIONS EXPRESSED IN THIS PUBLICATION ARE NOT NECESSARILY
THOSE OF THE WFCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND/OR MEMBERSHIP.

WASHINGTON FIRE COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION

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